

What is claimed is:

1 1. A distributed processing method in which a processing task  
2 is distributed to a plurality of user terminals and is executed  
3 by a plurality of user terminals, said distributed processing  
4 method comprising the steps of:

5 a server dividing a processing task into a plurality of  
6 the processing units and distributing the processing units to  
7 said plurality of user terminals;

8 each of said plurality of user terminals executing the  
9 distributed processing unit received from said server and sending  
10 back a processing result to said server via said network; and

11 said user terminals receiving a specified service as a  
12 value for executing said processing units.

1 2. The distributed processing method according to claim 1,  
2 wherein said specified service is to provide a license of using  
3 a user application or to discount a user fee charged by a on-line  
4 shopping and a provider connection.

1 3. A distributed processing method in which a processing task  
2 is distributed to a plurality of user terminals and executed  
3 by a plurality of user terminals, said distributed processing  
4 method comprising the steps of:

5 said collection/distribution server dividing said  
6 processing task into at least one or more processing units and  
7 distributing the units to said user terminals;

each of said plurality of user terminals receiving the processing unit transmitted from said collection/distribution server via the network to execute the processing unit under control of a license application installed to the user terminal;

each of said plurality of user terminals sending back a processing result to said collection/distribution server via the network; and

said license application providing said user terminal with a license for using a user application as a value for executing said processing unit.

4. A distributed processing method of a processing task, comprising:

a user terminal obtaining a user application and a license application from an application server via a network;

said application server transmitting information of a user who obtained said user application and said license application to a collection/distribution server;

said collection/distribution server accepting a request for a processing task from a customer terminal via the network;

said collection/distribution server dividing said processing task into a form which can be distributed and executed in a plurality of user terminals;

said collection/distribution server requesting said user terminal of executing the divided processing task based on the user information received from said application server;

said license application executing the divided processing

17 task requested from said collection/distribution server by said  
 18 license application on said user terminal, and sending back a  
 19 processing result to said collection/distribution server from  
 20 said user terminal;

21 said license application providing the user terminal with  
 22 a license key for said user application installed to said user  
 23 terminal; and

24 said collection/distribution server integrating the  
 25 processing results of the processing task collected from said  
 26 user terminals to transmit a integrated result to said customer  
 27 terminal.

1 5. The distributed processing method according to claim 4,  
 2 wherein said license application runs as a background  
 3 processing on said user terminal.

1 6. The distributed processing method according to claim 5,  
 2 further comprising:

3 said application server accounting to said  
 4 collection/distribution server in accordance with the number  
 5 of the license applications supplied to said user terminal.

1 7. A distributed processing method, comprising:  
 2 a user terminal accessing an application server, which  
 3 is providing a specified service, via a network to obtain a license  
 4 application;

5 said application server registering information of a user

6 terminal, which obtained said license application, with a user  
7 database, and transmitting the information to a  
8 collection/distribution server via said network;

9 said collection/distribution server accepting a request  
10 for a processing task from a customer terminal via the network,  
11 and dividing said processing task into a form which can be  
12 distributed and executed in a plurality of user terminals;

13 said collection/distribution server requesting at least  
14 one or more said user terminals of executing a divided processing  
15 task based on the user information received from said application  
16 server;

17 said license application executing the processing task  
18 requested by said collection/distribution server on each of said  
19 user terminals;

20 said license application sending back a processing result  
21 of said processing task to said collection/distribution server;

22 said collection/distribution server integrating the  
23 processing results of the processing task sent back from said  
24 user terminals and transmitting a integrated result to said  
25 customer terminal;

26 said collection/distribution server calculating and  
27 storing points in accordance with a processing amount for the  
28 processing task of each of said user terminals; and

29 said application server providing said user terminal with  
30 a service with accordance to the points stored by said  
31 collection/distribution server when the service is requested  
32 from said user terminal which executed said processing task .

1 8. A distributed processing system in which a processing task  
2 is executed by a plurality of user terminals, comprising:

3 a collection/distribution server which divides a  
4 processing task requested from a customer terminal into a  
5 plurality of processing units and distributes said processing  
6 units to said user terminals via the network; and

7 a application server which supplies said user terminals  
8 with a user application and a license application in response  
9 to a request from said user terminals,

10 wherein the license application supplied to said user  
11 terminal executes said processing unit on said user terminal  
12 and sends back a processing result when said user terminal receives  
13 one or more said processing units from said  
14 collection/distribution server, and provides the user terminal  
15 with a license key for using said user application,

1 9. The distributed processing system according to claim 8,  
2 further comprising:

3 a first user database which connects to said application  
4 server and which stores user information of said user terminals,  
5 to which said application server supplied the user application  
6 and the license application,

7 wherein said application server notifies said  
8 collection/distribution server of the user information when  
9 storing the user information into the first database.

1 10. The distributed processing system according to claim 9,

2 further comprising:

3 a second user database which connects to said  
4 collection/distribution server and which stores the user  
5 information received by said collection/distribution server from  
6 said application server,

7 wherein said collection/distribution server manages the  
8 user terminals which execute a divided processing task based  
9 on said second user database.

1 11. The distributed processing system according to claim 10,  
2 wherein the license application supplied to said user  
3 terminal requests the processing unit to said  
4 collection/distribution server when the license application runs  
5 on said user terminal.

1 12. A distributed processing system in which a processing task  
2 is executed by a plurality of user terminals, comprising:

3 a collection/distribution server which divides a  
4 processing task requested into a plurality of processing units,  
5 and which distributes the processing units to said plurality  
6 of user terminals, and which calculates points of each of said  
7 user terminals in accordance with a processing amount of the  
8 processing units;

9 a database connected to said collection/distribution  
10 server which stores said calculated points for every user  
11 terminal;

12 an application server which supplies said user terminal

13 with a license application in response to a request from said  
14 user terminal and which provides a service in response to a request  
15 from said user terminal; and

16 a plurality of the user terminals which executes the  
17 processing unit transmitted from said collection/distribution  
18 server,

19 wherein the license application supplied to said user  
20 terminal executes said processing unit on said user terminal  
21 and sends back a processing result to said  
22 collection/distribution server when said user terminal receives  
23 one or more said processing units from said  
24 collection/distribution server, and

25 said application server provides said user terminal with  
26 a service in accordance with points stored in said database.

1 13. The distributed processing system according to claim 12,  
2 wherein said collection/distribution server integrates  
3 and edits all the processing results transmitted from said user  
4 terminals, and transmits the result to the customer terminal.

1 14. The distributed processing system according to claim 12,  
2 said service for said user terminal of said application  
3 server is a discount of a fee in accordance with said points.

1 15. The distributed processing system according to claim 12,  
2 wherein said license application runs on said user terminal  
3 as a background processing.

1 16. The distributed processing system according to claim 12,  
2 wherein said application server charges said user terminal  
3 for an amount, which is discounted from a service fee for said  
4 user terminal by an amount in accordance with said point, and  
5 charges said collection/distribution server for the discounted  
6 amount.

1 17. A program embodied in electric signals, said program  
2 causing a user terminal, being in a distributed processing system  
3 comprising: a collection/distribution server; an application  
4 server; at least one or more user terminals; and a network mutually  
5 connecting the foregoing, to perform:

6 receiving a license key capable of using a specified user  
7 application from said application server;

8 executing at least one or more processing units received  
9 from said collection/distribution server on said user terminal;

10 sending back a result of executing said processing unit  
11 to said collection/distribution server; and

12 applying said license key to said user application on said  
13 user terminal as a value for executing said processing units.

1 18. A program embodied in electric signals, said program  
2 causing a collection/distribution server, being in a distributed  
3 processing system comprising: a collection/distribution server;  
4 an application server; at least one or more user terminals; and  
5 a network mutually connecting the foregoing, to perform:

6 receiving user information of the user terminal registered

7 with said application server from said application server and  
8 registering with a database;

9 accepting a processing task from a customer terminal and  
10 dividing the processing task into a plurality of processing units;  
11 distributing each of said processing units to a plurality  
12 of said user terminals connected via said network;

13 receiving processing results, which processed by said user  
14 terminals, of said distributed processing units;

15 integrating said received results, forming a result of  
16 said processing task, and sending back the result said customer  
17 terminal;

18 calculating a point value in accordance with a processing  
19 amount for the processing unit for each of said user terminals  
20 and storing said point value in the database, and

21 notifying said application server of the stored point  
22 value.

1 19. A collection/distribution server which allows a plurality  
2 of user terminals to execute a processing task in a distributed  
3 state, comprising means for:

4 accepting a request for a processing task from a customer  
5 terminal;

6 dividing and storing the processing task accepted into  
7 a plurality of processing units;

8 transmitting said stored processing units to said user  
9 terminal in response to a transmission request for the processing  
10 unit transmitted from said user terminal;

11 receiving a processing result transmitted from said user  
12 terminal;

13 integrating and editing all the processing results  
14 transmitted from said user terminals, forming a processing result  
15 for said processing task request, and transmitting the result  
16 to said customer terminal; and

17 calculating a point value in accordance with a processing  
18 amount of said user terminal, and storing the point value for  
19 each of said user terminals; and

20 sending said stored point value to an application server.

1 20. An application server of a distributed processing system  
2 in which a processing task received by a collection/distribution  
3 server is divided and executed in a plurality of user terminals,  
4 comprising means for:

5 sending a user application and a license application to  
6 a user terminal which requested sending of an application;

7 registering user information of said user terminal, to  
8 which said user application and said license application are  
9 sent, with a database, and send said user information to said  
10 collection/distribution server;

11 providing a service in accordance with a request for the  
12 service from said user terminal;

13 obtaining a point value for each of said user terminals  
14 from said collection/distribution server; and

15 charging said user terminal for an amount, which is  
16 discounted from a service fee for said user by an amount in

17 accordance with said obtained point value for each said user  
18 terminals, and charging said collection/distribution server for  
19 the discounted amount

17 accordance with said obtained point value for each said user  
18 terminals, and charging said collection/distribution server for  
19 the discounted amount